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coinc.

6. (Amended) The method of mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire of claim 5, wherein the uniformly compressing comprises using a swaging machine.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 remain pending in this application.

Applicants amend claims 1- 6 to better comply with U.S. practice and to improve grammar. Accordingly, these amendments are not intended to narrow the scope of originally pending claims nor have they been made in response to any art cited by the Examiner.

Claims 1 and 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Titcombe et al. In order to anticipate a claim, the cited reference must contain every recitation contained within the claim. Independent claims 1 and 5 respectively recite, *inter alia*, "the wire end receiving portion being uniformly compressed around the periphery thereof," and "uniformly compressing the cylindrical wire end receiving portion." Titcombe fails to teach uniform compression as required by the claims. In fact, Titcombe teaches a crimping apparatus and method closely related to that described in the "Description of the Related Art" of the instant application which has disadvantages the instant invention is at least partially concerned with overcoming. As clearly shown in Fig. 2, of Titcombe and further described at least starting at column 4, line 15, "[t]he first and second crimp ferrules are then crimped onto the cable using a four or eight pressure point crimping tool in known manner." Therefore, Titcombe clearly teaches distinct pressure point crimping, which cannot be considered to be compression as required by each of claims 1 and 5. Therefore, independent claims 1

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and 5, along with their dependent claims 2-4 and 6, respectively, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Titcombe et al. alone or in view of Brumbach et al. Claims 2 and 6 depend from claims 1 and 5, respectively, and for the reasons stated above are also in condition for allowance because neither Brumbach et al. alone or in combination teaches or suggests all of the recitations of claims 1 or 5. In addition, the Examiner asserts that Fig. 5 of Brumbach discloses a wire receiving end portion. Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion and point out that Brumbach is directed to a fluid conduit and element 32 depicted in Fig. 5 is a part of a two-piece conduit couple, not a wire receiving end portion as claimed in claim 1.

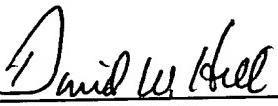
Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 31, 2002

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APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT OF JULY 31, 2002

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1-6 as follows:

1. (Amended) A structure [of] for mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire comprising:

a terminal comprising a cylindrical wire end receiving portion and a cylindrical connecting portion for connecting to [the] other equipment; and

a covered electric wire [in] from which a [front] leading end of a covering is removed to expose [and] a [front] leading end of an electric conductor [is exposed], [wherein] the wire end receiving portion [receives] receiving the [front] leading end of the exposed electric conductor [in] of the covered electric wire and a part of the covering, and [is closely] the wire end receiving portion being uniformly compressed around the periphery thereof to be in close contact with the exposed electric conductor [and a part of the covering due to a residual compression stress added uniformly from a periphery].

2. (Amended) [A] The structure [of] for mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire [according to] of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of the wire end receiving portion [is provided with] comprises a plurality of projections.

3. (Amended) [A] The structure [of] for mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire [according to] of claim 1, wherein an outer shape of the wire end receiving portion

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[is] has a cylindrical shape, and [the residual compression stress is added by uniformly pressurizing] the wire end receiving portion [from] is compressed around an outer portion.

4. (Amended) [A] The structure [of] for mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire [according to] of claim 1, wherein the wire end receiving portion is further extended in an axial direction [on the basis of a] due to plastic deformation.

5. (Amended) A method of mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire comprising:

removing a front end of a covering [in] on the covered electric wire [so as] to expose a [front] leading end of an electric conductor;

receiving the [front] leading end of the electric conductor and a part of the covering in a cylindrical wire end receiving portion of the terminal; and

uniformly [pressurizing] compressing the cylindrical wire end receiving portion [all] around the entire circumference in a radial direction [so as to compress] so that the cylindrical wire end receiving portion and at least a portion of the leading end of the electric conductor plastically deform.

6. (Amended) [A] The method of mounting a terminal to a covered electric wire [according to] of claim 5, wherein the [compression generating the plastic deformation employs] uniformly compressing comprises using a swaging machine.

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